

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 471

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL POZNAN

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, US

SUBJECT: POLISH MEDIA ON PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION ANNOUNCEMENT

1. THE CENTRAL PRESS ON AUGUST 9 FRONT-PAGED A PAP REPORT FROM WASHINGTON OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S DECISION TO RESIGN. THE REPORT INDICATES THAT, "IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE U.S. CONSTITUTION" VICE PRESIDENT FORD WILL ACCEDE TO THE PRESIDENCY. IT ADDS THAT THE PRESIDENT IN HIS STATEMENT JUSTIFIED HIS DECISION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE, APPEALED FOR SUPPORT OF HIS SUCCESSOR, AND EMPHASIZED BOTH THE "NECESSITY" OF CONTINUING THE POLICY OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT" IN COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION" AND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES. THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE PRESIDENT'S EARLIER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT HE HAD "CONCEALED" CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE "SO-CALLED WATERGATE AFFAIR" RESULTED

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IN TURNING AWAY SOME OF HIS SUPPORTERS AND PROVOKED

"VIOLENT ATTACKS" FROM HIS OPPONENTS. THE PAP ITEM CONCLUDES WITH A BRIEF REPORT OF SENATOR BROOKE'S IMMUNITY RESOLUTION. ADDITIONALLY, WARSAW AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS OF AUGUST 9, REPORTING THE STATEMENT VICE PRESIDENT FORD ISSUED FOLLOWING THAT OF THE PRESIDENT, EMPHASIZED THE VICE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCE THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE THE POLICY OF "STRENGTHENING PEACE" AND THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WOULD BE RETAINED.

2. THERE HAS SO FAR BEEN NO COMMENTARY IN THE PRESS. HOWEVER, TWO ARTICLES WRITTEN BEFOREHAND FOR LITERATURA (BY LONGIN PASTUSIAK) AND POLITYKA (BY JANUSZ STEFANOWICZ), AND APPEARING AUGUST 8 AND 9, RESPECTIVELY, DISCUSS WATERGATE IN BROADER TERMS THAN HERETOFORE. THOUGH EACH CHARACTERIZES THE MATTER AS STEMMING PRIMARILY FROM A DEEPER POLITICAL-CONSTITUTIONAL "CRISIS", THEY BOTH CONCLUDE IN A POSITIVE VEIN, STRESSING, AS STEFANOWICZ PUTS IT, THE "FANTASTIC" ADAPTIBILITY OF THE AMERICAN SYSTEM.
DAVIS

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